

## § 315.6

## 13 CFR Ch. III (1–1–99 Edition)

and such other information as requested by EDA. Acceptance of an application does not assure funding by EDA.

(b) Firms are selected in accordance with the following:

(1) Firms may apply for certification generally through a TAAC by filling out a petition for certification. The TAAC will provide technical assistance to firms wishing to fill out such petitions;

(2) Once firms are certified in accordance with the procedures described in §§ 315.9 and 315.10, an adjustment proposal is usually prepared with technical assistance from a party independent of the firm, usually the TAAC, and submitted to EDA;

(3) Certified firms which have submitted acceptable adjustment proposals within the time limits described in § 315.13 below, may begin implementation of such proposal, generally through the TAAC and often with Technical Assistance from the TAAC, by submitting a request to the TAAC to provide assistance in implementing an accepted adjustment proposal; and

(4) EDA determines whether or not to provide assistance for adjustment proposals based upon § 315.6(c)(2).

(c) Organizations representing trade injured industries must meet with an EDA representative to discuss the industry problems, opportunities and assistance needs, and if invited by EDA may then submit an application as approved by OMB, as well as a scope of work and proposed budget.

[60 FR 49678, Sept. 26, 1995, as amended at 61 FR 7984, Mar. 1, 1996]

### § 315.6 Evaluation criteria.

(a) Currently funded TAACs are generally evaluated based on the following:

(1) How well they have performed under cooperative agreements with EDA and if they are in compliance with the terms and conditions of such cooperative agreements;

(2) Proposed scope of work, budget and application or amended application; and

(3) The availability of funds.

(b) New TAACs are generally evaluated on the following:

(1) Demonstrates competence in administering business assistance programs;

(2) Background and experience of staff;

(3) Proposed scope of work, budget and application; and

(4) The availability of funding.

(c) Firms are generally evaluated based on the following:

(1) For certification, firms' petitions are selected strictly on the basis of conformance with requirements set forth in § 315.9 below;

(2) An adjustment proposal is evaluated on the basis of the following:

(i) The proposal must be submitted to EDA within 2 years after the date of the certification of the firm; and

(ii) The adjustment proposal must include a description of any technical assistance requested to implement such proposal including financial and other supporting documentation as EDA determines is necessary, based upon either:

(A) An analysis of the firm's problems, strengths and weaknesses and an assessment of its prospects for recovery; or

(B) If EDA so determines, an acceptable adjustment proposal can be prepared on the basis of other available information.

(iii) The adjustment proposal must be evaluated to determine that it:

(A) Is reasonably calculated to contribute materially to the economic adjustment of the firm, i.e., that such proposal will be a constructive aid to the firm in establishing a competitive position in the same or a different industry;

(B) Gives adequate consideration to the interests of a sufficient number of separated workers of the firm, by providing for example that the firm will:

(1) Give a rehiring preference to such workers;

(2) Make efforts to find new work for a number of such workers; and

(3) Assist such workers in obtaining benefits under available programs.

(C) Demonstrates that the firm will make all reasonable efforts to use its own resources for economic development, though under certain circumstances, resources of related firm

or major stockholders will also be considered.

(d) Organizations representing trade injured industries must demonstrate that the industry is injured by increased imports and that the activities to be funded will yield some short-term actions that the industry itself (and individual firms) can and will take toward the restoration of the industry's international competitiveness.

(1) The emphasis is on practical results that can be implemented in the near term, and long-term research and development activities are given low priority.

(2) It is also expected that the industry will continue activities on its own without the need for continued Federal assistance.

#### **§ 315.7 Award requirements.**

(a) Award periods are as follows:

(1) TAACs are generally funded for 12 months;

(2) Firms are generally provided assistance over a 2-year period; and

(3) Organizations representing trade injured industries are generally funded for 12 months.

(b) Matching requirements are as follows:

(1) There are no matching requirements for certification assistance provided by the TAACs to firms or for administrative expenses for the TAACs;

(2) All adjustment proposals and implementation assistance must include not less than 25% nonfederal match, provided to the extent practicable, by firms being assisted; and

(3) Contributions of at least 50% of the total project cash cost, in addition to appropriate in kind contribution, are expected from organizations representing trade injured industries.

### **Subpart B—Trade Adjustment Assistance Centers**

#### **§ 315.8 Purpose and scope.**

(a) Trade Adjustment Assistance Centers (TAACs) are available to assist firms in all fifty states, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in obtaining adjustment assistance. TAACs provide technical assistance in accordance with this subpart either through their own staffs or

by arrangements with outside consultants. Information concerning TAACs serving particular areas can be obtained from EDA. See the annual FY NOFA for the appropriate point of contact and address.

(b) Prior to submitting a request for technical assistance to EDA, a firm should determine the extent to which the required technical assistance can be provided through a TAAC. EDA will provide technical assistance through TAACs whenever EDA determines that such assistance can be provided most effectively in this manner. Requests for technical assistance will normally be made through TAACs.

(c) TAACs generally provide technical assistance to a firm by providing the following:

(1) Assistance to a firm in preparing its petition for certification;

(2) Assistance to a certified firm in diagnosing its strengths and weaknesses and developing an adjustment proposal for the firm; and

(3) Assistance to a certified firm in the implementation of the adjustment proposal for the firm.

[60 FR 49678, Sept. 26, 1995, as amended at 61 FR 7984, Mar. 1, 1996]

### **Subpart C—Certification of Firms**

#### **§ 315.9 Certification requirements.**

A firm will be certified eligible to apply for adjustment assistance based upon the petition for certification if EDA determines, under section 251(c) of the Trade Act, that:

(a) A significant number or proportion of workers in such firm have become totally or partially separated, or are threatened to become totally or partially separated.

(b) Either sales or production, or both of the firm have decreased absolutely; or sales or production, or both of any article that accounted for not less than 25 percent of the total production or sales of the firm during the 12-month period preceding the most recent 12-month period for which data are available have decreased absolutely; and

(c) Increases of imports (absolute or relative to domestic production) of articles like or directly competitive with